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Secretary Norton Announces New Appointments to BLM Resource Advisory Councils

Interior Secretary Gale Norton has appointed five members to the Dakotas' citizen-based Resource Advisory Council, which advise the Bureau of Land Management on public land issues.

"We value the input that the Dakotas Resource Advisory Council provides in helping the BLM manage America's public lands," Norton said. "I welcome our new and reappointed members, thank them for their commitment, and look forward to their counsel as we work to improve the health and productivity of the public lands."

The BLM's Resource Advisory Councils (RACs), composed of citizens chosen for their expertise in natural resource issues, help the agency carry out its stewardship of 261 million acres of public lands. The BLM, which manages more land than any other federal agency, has 24 RACs across the West, where most BLM-managed land is located.

BLM Director Kathleen Clarke said, "RAC members bring a wealth of experience and a wide range of perspectives to each of our councils. This diversity results in a balanced outlook that the BLM needs for its mission, which is to manage the public lands for multiple uses." The BLM, an agency of the Department of the Interior, is responsible for managing these various uses – such as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production – while conserving the land's natural, historical, and cultural resources.

Below are the new and reappointed members of the Dakotas RAC and the groups they represent. Information about upcoming RAC meetings will be announced as soon as it becomes available.

Mary Buchholz, federal grazing (reappointment)
Lyndon Bucher, energy/minerals (new)
A. Jay Grantier, environmental (new)
Rod Landblom, public-at-large (reappointment)
Raymond Uses the Knife, Native American tribes (new)

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